

CARNEGIE FREE LIBRARY  
300 E. South Street  
Union  
Union County  
South Carolina

HABS No. SC-618

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PHOTOGRAPHS AND  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

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Carnegie Free Library

HABS No. SC- 618

Location: 300 E. South Street, in the South Street Historic District, in the city of Union, Union County, South Carolina

Date of Construction: 1903-1905

Architect:

Present Use: Public library

Significance: The Carnegie Free Library was one of the first of 15 libraries established in towns throughout South Carolina by iron and steel industrialist and philanthropist Andrew Carnegie. Andrew Carnegie provided communities all over the world with funds to build public library buildings. Other South Carolina towns with Carnegie libraries include Darlington, Kingstree, Beaufort, and Sumter.

The Carnegie Free Library in Union is constructed of yellow brick with contrasting red brick and terra cotta trim. The facade has an Ionic portico in antis with a semicircular pediment bearing the name "Carnegie Free Library." A low octagonal dome with a finial is centered on the roof.

The interior of the building was renovated in 1968, but much original fabric remains.

The Carnegie Free Library in Union was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on May 19, 1983, as part of South Street Historic District.

Source of Information: National Register of Historic Places Nomination Form

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South Carolina Department of Archives and History  
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ADDENDUM TO  
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